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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A.R. Heitman et al. Examiner: Hong Chong Kim
Serial No.: 09/972,391 Group Art Unit: 2186
Filed: October 5, 2001 Docket No.: SJO920010096US1
TITLE: STORAGE AREA NETWORK METHODS AND APPARATUS WITH
VIRTUAL SAN RECOGNITION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 27, 2004.

David W. Victor

AMENDMENT

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Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is submitted in response to a non-final office action dated May 26, 2004 ("Office Action"), in which the Examiner rejected pending claims 1-23 as anticipated (35 U.S.C. §102) by prior art. Applicants amended certain claims and added new claims. Applicants traverse the prior art rejections and submit that all pending claims 1-26 are patentable over the cited art and in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed hereon.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6.

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